

Statue of the Sacred Heart

One of four statues of the Sacred Heart which were blessed by Pope Francis in January 2025 is on pilgrimage in our diocese at the moment. The statue is currently in the Sacred Heart Church, Ferrybank until Monday. From Monday, 4th - 16th August it will be available for veneration and prayer at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Moneenroe, Co. Kilkenny. On Saturday, 16th August 2025: Bishop Niall will celebrate Mass at 6.00pm in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Moneenroe, Co. Kilkenny, after which the Statue will leave the Diocese.

Mary's Meals Walk

The annual Step by Step to Feed the Next Child - Mary's Meals Walk from Kilkenny to Knock Shrine will leave St. John's Church, Kilkenny on Thursday 7th August to arrive at St Patrick's Church, Clogh. Mary's Meals is a simple solution to world hunger, feeding hungry children in their place of education in the world's poorest countries. €22 will feed a child for an entire year. Please go to marysmeals.ie to learn more and support. If anyone would like to walk all, a day, 5k or 1k or if anyone would assist in collections, please contact Josephine 087 203 7173 or Fr. Eamonn 087 907 7985. Thank you.

Eoin Madigan

This weekend we say farewell to Eoin Madigan, a student priest for our diocese. Eoin has completed his placement in our parish and we wish him God's blessing as he returns to his studies at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth

Airneán

Airneán, led by Kilkenny native Joe Leydon welcomes touring US Choir, *Encore*, to Saint Canice's Cathedral for an evening of song on Tuesday 5th August at 7.00pm. Eventbrite.

Men's Jubilee Camino

Men's hike - Saturday, 13th September. 20kms, on greenway, from Dominican Abbey (ruin) in Carlingford to Newry (St Catherine's) via Newry Cathedral (Jubilee Indulgence). Mass, Adoration, Rosary, Confessions and Fraternity. Registration and further details are available on www.dominicans.ie/events/. €70 (Lunch, dinner and bus), over 18s male event.

Contactless Payments

For your greater convenience we can now accept contactless payments at the Parish Office. In an effort to serve our growing cashless society payment terminals will be positioned in our churches in the very near future.

Address: St John's Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny. R95 ND2W

Email: stjohns@ossory.ie **Website:** www.stjohnskilkenny.com

Office: 056 772 1072; **Secretary:** Áine Butler; **Office Hours:** Mon-Fri 9.30 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.

Newsletter Deadline: Thursdays 12.00 noon

SVP Help Line: 086 895 1239

Monsignor Dan Carroll: 087 907 7769. Fr Raymond Dempsey: 089 497 1924.

Monsignor Michael Ryan (Retired)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

**Mary Brennan; Jo Browne; Alan Burke; Fr Dan Carroll; Claire Coogan;
Fr Raymond Dempsey; Luke Leydon; Paddy Manning; Iris O'Flynn; Karna Phelan.**

IF YOU HAVE A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN CONTACT

The Diocesan Designated Liaison Person, Ms. Ailish Higgins, 085 802 1633 - dlp@ossory.ie

OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES ARE:

Brenda Whitely; Marian Eardly.

Counselling Services - Towards Healing Confidential Helpline

1800 313 316 - www.towardshealing.ie

Roman Catholic Diocese and Parishes of Ossory - Registered Charity No. 20015831

Parish Of Saint John The Evangelist

incorporating | St John's | Dunmore | Johnswell | church areas

MASS TIMES

St John's - Saturday: 6.00pm (Vigil); **Sunday:** 8.00am, 11.30am & 7.00pm.

Holy Days: 6.00pm (Vigil); 8.00am, 10.30am & 7.00pm.

Weekdays: 8.00am, 10.30am. (Sat. 10.30am only). **Adoration:** Wednesdays at 11.00am.

Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am

Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am

**St. John's Parish, St. Mary's Parish, St. Patrick's Parish, St. Canice's Parish
together form the Kilkenny City Pastoral Area**

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 3rd August 2025

Fr. Joseph Lubula

This weekend we welcome Fr. Joseph Lubula back to our parish. Fr. Joseph is a priest of the Diocese of Lugazi in Uganda. He will be with us until the end of September, and we are delighted that he has made the decision to return to Kilkenny for two months. Please give him a warm Kilkenny welcome!

Ms Geraldine Patterson Retirement

At the end of August Ms Geraldine Patterson will conclude her time as Principal of Johnswell NS. To mark her retirement after 32 years teaching in Johnswell (8 years as Principal) a Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated in St John the Baptist Church, Johnswell on Friday, 5th September at 7.30pm followed by light refreshments. All are welcome to attend and show their appreciation to Ms Patterson's dedicated service to education in our parish.

Book Fair in St. John's Parish Centre in aid of the Rise & Shine Trust

A book fair will take place in St John's Parish Centre on Friday, 8th, Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th August. All proceeds will go to The Rise & Shine Trust (formerly Irish Pilgrimage Trust) of which Fr Dan is the National Chaplain. The Trust provides a fun pilgrimage/trip to Lourdes each Easter for young people with additional needs. Second hand books in good condition may be dropped to the Sacristy or Presbytery before Friday.

Have a look - choose a book - support a trip!

Annual Parish Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine - 21st August

Only a few weeks remain until our annual parish pilgrimage to Knock on Thursday, 21st August - the anniversary of the Knock Apparition. In this special Jubilee Year, the theme for this year's National Novena to Our Lady of Knock is *Pilgrims of Hope*. Hope is at the very heart of the Knock apparition, and it is good that we will be there to explore this theme on the final day of the Novena. The speaker at the 3.00pm Novena Ceremony on the day of our pilgrimage will be Claire Kilroy who will speak on the theme *Living Faith: How Young People are Shaping the Future*.

Two coaches will travel from St. John's Parish on the day. Pilgrims will stop for an optional breakfast in Athlone and for optional dinner in Moate on the return journey. Some tickets are still available at the Parish Office. Tickets cost €25 each (food not included).

The National Novena runs from 13th - 21st August. Full programme each day. Family Day will take place on Sunday, 17th August. Find out more at www.knockshrine.ie

No 8.00am Mass on this Bank Holiday Monday

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Paddy Culleton, Lacken Drive. Reposing in Johnston's Funeral Home, on Tuesday with Rosary and Vigil Prayers at 6.30pm followed by removal to St. John's Church. Requiem Mass on Wednesday at 10.30am.

Pake Bambrick, Gaol Road. Reposing in Johnston's Funeral Home, on Sunday with Rosary and Vigil Prayers at 6.15pm followed by removal to St. Mary's Cathedral. Requiem Mass on Monday at 11.00am.

Mary Meany, Cellarstown	David Kirwan, Newpark Close
Giovanna Magahy, London	Ger Tobin, Castlewarren
May Holohan, Tullow	Deirdre Nolan, Wexford (formerly Kilkenny)
Mary Geoghegan, Bagenalstown (formerly of Lyrath)	

Months Mind: Paddy Parker (Thurs. 10.30am).

Anniversaries: Eveline Hennessy (10.00am); Fr Kieran Rice; Anne McWilliams (nee Rice) (11.00am); Fr Lorcan Moran; Ann Walsh; Mary Power (11.30am); Martin Kelly; Michael Ryan; Sylvana Micklenwright; Michael Walsh; Eileen Roche; Martin & Brigid Keane; Richard Dempsey.

Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day.

Readers for Next Weekend		Attendance/Collections Last Weekend		
6.00pm	Mairin Bergin	Envelope Collection:		€670.00
8.00am	Padraig O'Neill	Mass	Attendance	Baskets
10.00am	Eve Brennan & Anna Ryan	6.00pm St. John's	80	203.00
11.00am	Bernard O'Gorman & John McGourty	8.00am St. John's	116	296.00
11.30am	Frank & Emily Bradley	10.00am Johnswell	37	121.00
7.00pm	Eileen Kinane	11.00am Dunmore	90	114.00
		11.30am St. John's	190	438.00
		7.00pm St. John's	121	262.00
			634	€1,404.00

Jubilee Year of Hope 2025

The Youth Gathering in this Jubilee Year of Hope takes place this week. Also incorporating World Youth Day 2025 over one million young people have gathered in Rome for this festival of faith. Culminating with Mass celebrated by Pope Leo XIV on Sunday morning, Friday was dedicated to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On Saturday evening the near one million young people attended a vigil in Tor Vergata presided over by Pope Leo XIV.

In welcoming the young people to Rome Pope Leo XIV told them that Jesus tells them: "You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world." (Mt 5:13-14). Encouraging them that their voices, their enthusiasm, their cries will be heard to the ends of the earth asking them to cry out for peace in our world.

Play at Black Abbey celebrating 800 years

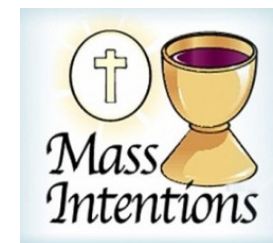
Lake Productions, in association with The Black Abbey, will present 'The Man Born to be King', adapted by John Morton, directed by Barren Donohue, music by The Kilkenny Gospel Choir, on 9th, 10th and 11th September, at 7.30pm in The Black Abbey. €15 open seating. Booking on Eventbrite. The religious play will be presented in conjunction with the Black Abbey in celebrating their 800th anniversary in Kilkenny.

Pope Leo XIV's Prayer Intention for August - For Mutual Coexistence

Pope Leo's prayer intention for August builds on Pope Francis' encyclical 'Fratelli Tutti'. It is a response to polarisation among humanity along the lines of religious, cultural, ethnic, ideological and national differences. In his message, Pope Leo asks us to pray that societies might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation and that we Christians be builders of peace with the ability to see others through the eyes of the heart.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 4th August

Tuesday:	8.00am	Richard Dempsey
Wednesday:	10.30am	Requiem Mass Paddy Culleton
Thursday:	10.30am	MM Paddy Parker
Friday:	7.00pm	Martin Kelly (Dunmore)
Saturday:	6.00pm	Mary Cleere
		Philomena Sheil
Sunday:	11.30am	MM Paddy Butler



Please note we may transfer an anniversary Mass on the occasion of a funeral.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

The Nicæan Creed - at the Heart of the Church's Faith

Has the Creed changed since the Council of Nicaea? Yes. In 381 the First Council of Constantinople reaffirmed the Council of Nicaea and updated the actual Creed by adding text about the Holy Spirit and the Church.

Did the Council of Nicaea discuss anything else? Yes. Another objective of the gathering was to establish a common date for Easter. They failed to establish this. Pope Leo commented on this failure earlier in June: "Sadly, differences in their calendars no longer allow Christians to celebrate together the most important feast of the liturgical year, causing pastoral problems within communities, dividing families and weakening the credibility of our witness to the Gospel".

Points to Ponder

Today's gospel goes to the heart of our Cistercian life. Our spiritual ancestors such as Saint Anthony of the Desert, St Francis and St Benedict adopted lives of penance and simplicity when they didn't ultimately need to. For many people the decisions that these great saints made was weird. They turned away from wealth and grandeur and privilege and embraced the kind of life that we live here at Mount St Joseph Abbey. At the centre of our vocation is the desire to communicate with our creator. This desire transcends the need and desire for temporal goods, money and worldly power, and for any of the other vacuous trappings of life. The decision that these saints made is not necessarily a single decision but had to be remade sometimes on a daily basis. This is what we call daily conversion. Starting again. In other words, getting back up again when we fall flat on our faces. Looking into a bank account full of savings is wonderful because we see the result. But building a spiritual store house is not so easy. We may feel totally useless or incapable, even after much effort in the spiritual sphere. But the storehouses of Heaven are a mystical place and we do not fully understand them. God wants us in some ways to experience the full range of humanity, and this includes the truth of failure, of not being any good. Yet all of this is part of our store, part of the gift that God gives us towards becoming members of his Kingdom. *Mount St Joseph Abbey, Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance msjroscreea.ie*

Feast day of St. John Vianney, Patron of Priests Monday, 4th August

Prayer of St. John Vianney

I love You, O my God, and my only desire is to love You until the last breath of my life.

I love You, O my infinitely lovable God, and I would rather die loving You, than live without loving You.

I love You, Lord and the only grace I ask is to love You eternally...

My God, if my tongue cannot say in every moment that I love You,

I want my heart to repeat it to You as often as I draw breath. Amen.